

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(e) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art Figure 1 in view of Chambers; and claims 2 and 4-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art Figure 1 and Chambers in view of Kabir.

Claim 1 of the instant invention comprises the limitation of a counterdoped collector region adjacent to a buried collector region. In forming the rejection to claim 1 the examiner cites the Chambers patent. With regard to the Chambers patent the examiner states that the Chambers et al. patent teaches a counterdoped collector region 12. In addition however, the Chambers patent teaches a counter doped region 34 that is separate and apart from the collector region. In fact, in col. 4, lines 40-45, the Chambers specifically distinguishes the counterdoped region 34 and the remaining n-well 12 (collector region) as follows, "This counter doped region permits the remaining n-well 12 (collector region) to be more highly doped, hence providing a lower resistance collector." Here the Chambers patent leaves no doubt that the remaining n-well region 12 is the collector region and that this collector region is separate and apart from the counterdoped region 34. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over the cited art. In addition, claim 3 depends on claim 1 and is also allowable over the cited art.

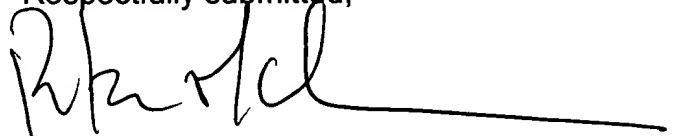
As described above the Chambers patent does not disclose a counterdoped collector region. Claims 5, 7 and 9 have been amended to include the limitation of a counterdoped collector region. Claims 2 and 4-8 all comprise the limitation of a counterdoped collector region and are allowable over the Chambers patent either alone or in combination with the Kabir et al. patent.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter K. McLarty', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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